

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial comment on matters affecting labor, covering the labor market, industrial relations and labor legislation, and includes other information of interest to the laboring community.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WHOLE NO. 1705

WILLIAM GREEN, President

WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1945

GEORGE HEALY, Secretary-Treasurer

VOL. 31, No. 60

FACING THE FACTS

With PHILIP PEARL

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True, the NAM spokesman repeatedly intimated during the discussion that management-labor cooperation is vital to the constructive solution of post-war economic problems. But what do they mean by cooperation? We failed to hear a single, forthright statement by any of these businessmen to the effect that the time has come for American industry to quit fighting unions and to learn how to cooperate with them.

Perhaps his acknowledgment was implied in the invitation to the labor leaders. If so, why did Charles E. Smith, vice-chairman of the War Production Board and a high-ranking business leader himself, find it necessary to lecture the NAM executives on the "right-wing" tactics? Why did Tom Girdler, in an earlier speech, couple a broad recognition of the need for labor with the hypothetical statement that workers must be left free to join or not to join a union?

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In any case, it is apparent that the approaching impact of post-war problems has caused many businessmen to look for a more equitable relationship with labor and that an exceedingly healthy development.

Areas of Agreement
In a recent series of speeches, Mr. Johnson emphasized these unalienable truths: that an alliance between management and labor is the best insurance against the continuation or even extension of government control; that it is the only way to prevent the kind of "right-wing" tactics which have been used in the past; that a high wage economy in the post-war period is essential to increased production and social welfare; and that the only way to achieve this is through a more equitable relationship between labor and management.

So far, labor can agree with him. When Mr. Johnson said that government controls we believe he speaks as a sincere advocate for free enterprise of labor as well as industry. His organization has consistently opposed anti-labor legislation and labor-law suits as opposed to the mutual interests of labor and management and as dangerous to the national welfare.

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In this connection, we believe that the following message from Vice President Matthew Woll, head of the Labor League for Human Rights, is particularly appropriate.

"Christmas is more than a holiday. It is an attitude towards circumstance, and therefore an attitude that manifests itself even in the face of the most brutal of wars.

"Goodwill to men can be a well-meaning platitude, or a call to action. It has been a call to action for the six and one-half million members of the American Federation of Labor, who this year gave more than \$30,000,000 for relief of the needy and the unfortunate at home and abroad, through the Labor League for Human Rights.

"This goodwill has been demonstrated in the warm garments sent to the homeless children of London, in the food ships bearing bread and milk to the starving people of China and Yugoslavia, in the vital aid sent by American labor to those who are fighting bravely by side with us in the air, in the help that has been given in the added comforts sent to Army camps and to servicemen on the fighting fronts, and in innumerable community welfare projects established with the aid of organized labor.

"And because the working people of America have borne a heavy burden in this second year of war, their contributions have a special significance. Yet our members have given out of their surplus. Labor has voluntarily and generously shared its distinguishing role.

"The members of the American Federation of Labor have manifested the true Christmas spirit, the spirit of goodwill in that great utterance, 'It is more blessed to give than receive.'"

Paralysis Fund Drive Opens Jan. 14: Stricken Workers Helped This Year

New York City—American's production leaders, the men who make the goods that we use, are now turning out the materials essential for the relief of the stricken people of the world. The National Paralysis Fund Drive, which is being conducted by the National Paralysis Association, is a campaign to raise money for the relief of the stricken people of the world. The drive is being conducted by the National Paralysis Association, which is a non-profit organization. The drive is being conducted by the National Paralysis Association, which is a non-profit organization.

Senate Approves Rail Wage Boost By Overwhelming Margin of 4 to 1

Washington, D. C.—By a record vote of 74 to 4, the Senate gave its support to a wage increase of 8 cents an hour for 1,100,000 non-operating railroad employees throughout the country, an increase which Fred M. Vinson, Director of Economic Stabilization, had denied.

The action was taken through the adoption of the Truman resolution, which provided that the agreement reached in Washington on Aug. 7, between the railroad and fifteen labor unions was in accord with the requirements of the War Relocation Act and all other requirements of law.

"I am writing regarding the resolution which you have introduced in the Senate," said Mr. Vinson. "I am writing regarding the resolution which you have introduced in the Senate."

The resolution now goes to the House, where, according to its author, Senator Harry S. Truman, Director of Economic Stabilization, is expected to oppose it.

An Appeal From President Green

Washington, D. C.—AFL President William Green urged today to members of all affiliated unions to write or wire their Senators urging support of timely legislation which would stimulate farm production and at the same time help to control food prices.

"I am writing regarding the resolution which you have introduced in the Senate," said Mr. Green. "I am writing regarding the resolution which you have introduced in the Senate."

"The Office of Price Administration is clothed with authority to take action. However, in order to prevent inflation and control the cost of living, it is necessary that the Government be able to produce more food and other necessities of life."

"We and write your United States Senators urging them to support timely legislation as recommended by President Roosevelt. It is urgent that the efforts of the Government be able to produce more food and other necessities of life."

Slash In Shipbuilding Expected As U. S. Closes Yards On Sundays

Washington, D. C.—A slash in cargo ship production for 1946 is expected in light as the Maritime Commission ordered all shipyards to close down every Sunday starting Jan. 1.

A committee spokesman, outlining the order for a shutdown one day a week, said that the Sunday holidays were intended mainly to give the shipyard workers a day to spend with their families.

"This was fully acknowledged by the spokesman's assertion that 'ship situation is a lot easier,' thereby making the Sunday holiday 'a lot easier.'"

AFL UNIT MEETS WITH U.M.W. REPRESENTATIVES

Washington, D. C.—No constructive results were obtained from a meeting held here by members of a special committee of the AFL, Executive Council with representatives of the United States Federation of Labor Unions and the United States Federation of Labor Unions.

The AFL committee submitted to the U.S.F.L.U. a large number of jurisdictional questions and the U.S.F.L.U. committee submitted to the AFL committee a large number of jurisdictional questions.

A bill report on the conference was submitted to the committee by the AFL committee and the U.S.F.L.U. committee.

LABOR LAWS UNIT FAVORS INDUSTRIAL SAFETY BILL

Kansas City—The Youth National Conference on Labor Legislation, held here by an overwhelming vote, H. R. 2260, which was introduced by Congressman Newell of New Jersey at the request of the American Federation of Labor, was approved.

This bill provides for an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the relief of the stricken people of the world. The bill is being introduced by the American Federation of Labor, which is a non-profit organization.

ILGWU OPENS NEW SCHOOL FOR ITS UNION LEADERS

New York City—An ILGWU officers' institute, with a faculty comprising such noted educators and speakers as Sumner H. Blanton, dean of economics at Harvard, and John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, was opened here today.

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PATTERNMAKERS WORKING ON PEACE-TIME ITEMS

Washington, D. C.—President George G. Lynch of the AFL Patternmakers' League declared that "many members of the organization have been ready to be converted from war to peace."

"Many of our people are being put to work on peace-time items, such as refrigerators," he said. "The making of peace-time items is a trend in industry."

KING GREETED WORKERS IN XMAS MESSAGE

Washington, D. C.—High priest of the AFL, Walter P. Reuther, commander-in-chief of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, has written a Christmas message to the workers.

"Jobs and Wages" Set by Green As No. 1 Post-War Objective

Washington, D. C.—The current decline in construction will release about a million men for other employment by the end of 1945, the War Relocation Commission predicted.

Since the wartime peak of 5,100,000 in the fall of 1942, construction employment has fallen to 3,100,000. It reached about 1,600,000 in the same period of this year, Labor market statistics indicate that the decline will continue to about 600,000 or 700,000 in January, 1946, and to 500,000 in July, 1946.

Between July and November of this year more than half of 307,000 construction workers released were in areas of acute labor shortage, thereby by facilitating their rapid reabsorption into industry.

Stilled and semi-skilled workers, who are the most in need of retraining, are being trained in shipbuilding. Recent occupational studies show that 40 of the 100 construction workers released were in shipbuilding and that the rest are in other related industries.

Electric Industry Post-War Program Revealed by Labor and Management

Washington, D. C.—Labor and management have agreed upon a specific post-war program for the electrical construction industry, which will include a \$1 billion dollar program for the construction of new power plants and transmission lines.

The program is being developed by the National Electrical Contractors Association, which is a non-profit organization. The program is being developed by the National Electrical Contractors Association, which is a non-profit organization.

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